THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

SUNDAY, APRIL

SIAM AND ITS PEOPLE.

The Venice of the Orient and Its Miles of Floating Houses.

BANGKOK AND ITS WATERWAYS.

A Country Where All the Women Wear

Short Hair and ALL THE BABIES SMOKE CIGARETTES

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.



BANGKOK, STAM. February 5,-Siam is one of the out-ofthe-way countries of the world. None of the great steamship lines of the Pacific or of the Indian oceans stop at it. Few globe trotters visit it and it is about 1.500 mile out of the regular line of travel around the world. The great Siamese peninsula juts down from the east coast of

China. It contains half a dozen different countries, the chief of which are Burmah, Siam and the French States of China. Siam itself is at the lower end of the peninsula and it bounds the greater part of that mighty body of water known as the Gulf of Siam. It is 1.300 miles long, and at its widest part it is 450 miles wide. It is almost as flat as your hand, though it has here and there a few mountain chains. It has many big rivers and the country is as much cut up with canals as is Holland. During the rainy season it becomes a mighty lake, and the people move here and there from one miles long, and at its widest part it is 450 the people move here and there from one city to another in boats. The greatest river is the Menam, which the Siamese know by the same name as the Indian knew the Mississippi. It is "the father of waters" and it forms the great highway of the kingdom. This river flows into the Gulf of Siam at its head and it is about 40 miles from



its mouth that I sit here on its banks and write this letter in this floating city of Bangkok. Imagine a city as large as of the people live on the water. There are 15 miles of floating houses on the two sides of this river, and these, with the King's palaces and a few foreign buildings on the and, make up the capital of the Siamese

people.

There are 6,000,000 and more of these Siamese, and their country covers a territary of about twice the size of Colorado. four times the size of New York, and it is about five times as big as Ohio. It is a tropical country, and the click of my typewriter falls upon my ears mixed with the songs of the thousands of birds which sing in the branches of the trees outside the oriental hotel. The doors and the windows ese themselves; and it makes me perspire to think of American overcoats and of the clothing which you people wear as I write. It is too hot to go out in the middle of the day, and we have all the surroundings of the tropics. The cocoanut and the palm tree line the banks of this Menam river, and the boats flit in and out of jungles which remind one of the swamps of Florida, save that you may see the monkeys upon the trees, and the plumage of the birds is more

A Bustling Watery Bighway.

I wish I could give you a picture of our ride up the Menam to Baugkok. The sides of the river are lined with these small floating houses. They are anchored to piles and they lie half hidden by the great palm trees on the banks. Here and there a canal juts off into the jungle and the houses on it makes this a floating street. These houses are made of bamboo with their sides and their roofs thatched with palm leaves. They are sometimes on piles high above the water, but more often they rest on its surface. They are tied to poles driven into the bed of the river and they rise and fall with the tide. Their average height is not more than ten feet and each looks like two large dog kennels fastened together and covered

with palm leaves.

Here and there is an opening in the palm trees and you get a glimpse of the country; it is flat as the waters of the river, and where it is plowed it looks as black as your hat. The only beasts upon it are ugly water buf-

The river is winding. It is perhaps a quarter of a mile wide and every turn brings new surprises. As we near Bangkok the waters are alive with craft of all kinds.

none of the outlines of beauty. There is beauty, too, in the outlines of these plump, straight, lithe-limbed Siamese maidens. A part of their education is bending the and children. The people have no pockets joints back and forth to make them and their favorite place for carrying cigars many pine trees, and they move with the American clerks carry their pens and pengrace of the India rubber man in the circus. cils. I saw a naked boy of 4 yesterday Their step is a light one, for they walk standing in a crowd smoking a cigarette.

lick and their short wirey hair, black and oily, stands up like a shoebrash all over their heads. Here one turns her face. She has a dark brown complexion. Her forehead is square, her cheek bones are high, her nose is half flat and it turns slightly upward over a pair of ripe, luscious black lips. She opens her mouth and the black of her lips is equaled only by the jet of her teeth. The sight is disgusting. This maiden, like all the men, women and children in Bangkok, is a chewer of the betel nut, which turns the teeth black, puffs out the lips and makes them crack. The betel nut, which turns the teeth black, puffs out the lips and makes them crack. The betel nut is a native of Siam, and immense quantities of them are exported to India and quantities of them are exported to India and other countries where the chewing of it prevails. It has a green skin and is of the size of a black walnut. It is sold in pieces size of a black walnut. It is sold in pieces the size of a hickory nut and it is of a soft spongy nature, having a bitter astringent taste. The Siamese mix it with lime colored red, and a bit of tobacco. The red lime is wrapped up in green leaves, and everyone in the country has a betel box near him. He chews and spits and spits and chews all day long and it is said that this habit costs the people fully as much as their food. It has much the same effect as tobacco in that it takes away hunger and

their food. It has much the same effect as tobacco in that it takes away hunger and produces a stimulating and soothing sensation. It is used everywhere and the bridegroom gives a present of betel nuts to his bride. Babies are given it sometimes before they are weaned, and I saw a young Siamese boy yesterday, of 10, as naked as was Adam before the fall, squirting betel juice between his teeth and aiming at a mark. It is a vile, filthy habit, and it turns the Siamese from a moderately handsome nation into a most ugly one. tion into a most ugly one.

Floating Emporiums The Siamese girls have beautiful eyes and the plump, olive cheeks of maidens of 15 would be very attractive were it not for the betel. Their eyes are black, lustrous and full of soul. They are a friendly set, too, and they do not shrug their rosy uncovered water, and the maiden storekeeper squats down on the floor with her goods all around her and with her betel box and tobacco be-side her. Her husband is usually lying in a back room or loafing. Her stock is very small, and there is nothing for the foreigner to buy. The wants of the people are few. Siamese washing takes neither soap nor starch, and vegetables and rice constitute the most of the food of the people. When they want a dainty they take a little raw, rotten fish and mix it with their curry and the majority of them do not know what

An Aquatic Race. The Siamese wash their clothes and their bodies at the same time, and this river Menam is always full of bathers. The girls step down into the water with this yardwide strip around their waists and roll about like mermaids. The men bathe in the same way, and they delight in taking a vessel and filling it with water and standing or sitting on the wharves of their houses and raising it high above their heads and letting the cool stream pour over their warm persons. After they have had a bath they stand a minute to let themselves dry, then slipping another cloth loosely about the waist, over their wet garment, they let the other fall to the floor, wring it out and dry it for second wearing. In the evening you see this bathing going on everywhere, and the play-ground of the children of Bangkok is in the

A Sinmese Home. These floating homes are more like cottages or huts than houses, the average size of them is three rooms, and you could set

one roof all down within a good sized Chicago, of which ninety-nine hundredths | American parlor. First there is an outer ledge covered with a roof and open to the river. Inside there is a kitchen and bedroom. They have no windows, and in Bangkok I don't suppose there are a hundred panes of window glass. The climate is so warm that the people want every breath of air they can get, and when you pack the survivors of two or three generations of one family into one of these huts you have no need of either windows or doors. There are no chairs in these floating houses. The people sleep upon mats, or straw, or skins, and their pillows are stuffed with cotton, or are mere pieces of wood. The beds of the ordinary family are filled with bugs and of are all open, and the lightest of white duck linen is oppressive as clothing. It is Febru-ary, but I long to go as naked as the Siam-art, but I long to go as naked as the Siamants, mosquitoes and lizards, everywhere, and the bodies of these naked children are rubbed with a yellow powder which keeps the mosquitoes away. A Siamese kitchen has no chimney and the people never need A Siamese kitchen



A Man of Siam.

falces. There are no fences, no barns, and a base burner. The cooking is all done only these thatched houses on piles. over coals in a box filled with earth or ashes, and the chief culinary articles are a The river is winding. It is perhaps a quarter of a mile wide and every turn brings new surprises. As we near Bangkok the waters are alive with craft of all kinds. Little, naked, brown, shock-headed youngsters paddle long canoes not over two feet wide and so sharp that the least balance would unseat the rower. There are half-naked women with great hats of straw, which look like inverted workbaskets, sitting bare-legged and bare-breasted in boats which they paddle along, and boats of all sizes are worked by all ages and sexes, from habies of six to wrinkled old men and short, gray-daired women of 60. As you enter Bangkok the crowd increases. Instead of one line of floating houses along the banks there are three and sometimes four. The whole river is alive and you turn your eyes this way and that, meeting a maze of new objects at every turn. The Belles of Siam.

The women are very thinly clad, and hide

ever, no fixed dinner hour, and gastronomy has a long ways to go before it will become a science in Siam.

A Nation of Smokers.

Everyone in Siam smokes-men, women and they are as straight as so and cigarettes is behind the ear, just as our without shoes and all native Siam goes bare-tooted. They are all short-haired, and these Siamese girls have heads which seem to be afflicted with a perpetual cow-

The King of Siam is supposed to own the people and each man in the realm has to serve for three, six or nine months as a servant of the Government. At a certain time of the year the entire population is marked off to particular noblemen or Government masters. These masters, whenever the Government demands anything of them can compel the men marked off to serve. All kinds of work are demanded and the various marks put upon the men indicate their trades r profession. Some men are required to ive all their time to the Government, and in this case they get nominal salaries. Those who give half their time work for the King 15 days and then have 15 days off. The King 15 days and then have 15 days off. The three months subjects get no pay and during the time they are in Bangkok they have to find themselves in food and lodging. This and themselves in food and lodging. This work practically enslaves the whole population of males, and slavery is common in Siam. Criminals convicted often become slaves, and they are sometimes marked or branded on the forehead. I have seen many men in chains during my stay here, and just outside the walls of the palace there are at least two score of men, brightered and locking lusts follows the based and locking lusts follows are a based and locking lusts are a locking lusts are a locking lusts follows are a locking lusts are a locking lust a locking lust are a locking lust a locking lust are a locking lust are a locking lust are a locking lust a locking lust a locking lust are a locking lust a locking

of his creditor, who charges him from 15 to 30 per cent a year, puts him in chains and takes his work as the interest on the debt. There are hundreds of such slaves in Bangkok, and many of the men become slaves by gambling away their living.

eyed, good-looking, lusty fellows who have great iron collars about their necks and

chains about their legs and arms, who were making basket work, and who offered to sel

me their wares as I passed. The debtor who does not pay in Siam must become the slave

Thoroughbred Camblers. There are gambling houses everywhere and men and women, old and young, are addicted to gambling. One of the great rames seems to be fantan, and there are big sheds scattered along the main streets of the city in which these half-naked, brownskinned, blood-spitting Siamese collect in groups about mats, where Chinamen act as the bankers and conduct this game. Little shells are used instead of cash, and the game is substantially the same as the fantan of China. Gambling also goes on upon the river and it takes place among the ladies of the harem, I am told, in the very palace itself. The nation all told seems addicted to vice rather than to virtue, and it is nearer akin to pure heathenism than any other I have yet seen. Still it claims to be progressive, and its King has made some steps to the front. The whole, however, compares more to the colored Republic of Hayti or to the blacks of San Domingo than to any other civilization. The people are devoted to Buddhism and the priests are numbered by thousands. I will visit the palace and the gorgeous temples to-morrow, and in my next letter can give you a taste of high life and culture as gathered under the very feet of the sacred white elephants and in the shadows of the harem itself.
FRANK G. CARPENTER,

HAY FEVER. .

Something of Interest to Those Who Are Troubled With This Disease.

Youth's Companion.] "What are the causes, nature, prevention and cure of hay fever? What places are exempt from it? What are the latest opinions of the medical profession respecting this disease?"

neurosis, or an affection of the nerves, a peculiar susceptibility of certain nerves, terminating in the mucous membrane, to irritation from the pollen of various plants. It is only about 70 years since it was first described under the name of summer catarrh. It prevails much more extensively in some countries than in others, being twice as common in England as elsewhere, and much less common at the South and in Canada than in our Northern States. It is a rare disease west of the Mississippi.

Its seat is in the mucous membrane of the nostrils, eyes, pharynx, larynx and bron-chial tubes. It sometimes assumes an asth-matic form, and hence has been called hay asthma. The susceptibility to it is often inherited.

Although it is caused by pollen, yet the inhabitants of rural districts are less liable to it than visitors from the city. In this

espect it is like other diseases. Yellow ever, for instance, is most likely to attack who come from abroad into the infected locality.

It is called hay fever, but the pollen of many different plants may give rise to it.
It prevails from May to August. All
patients are not susceptible to the pollen of
the same plant. That of the grasses is perhaps the most potent. June is most prolific

of pollen-grains. Eight hundred a day

have been collected on aglass less than half an inch square. Rains often wash the at-mosphere nearly clear of them. To be sure of escaping the annual attack, one must remove to a region at a distance from the offending vegetation, say to the White Mountains in New Hampshire, Mt. Mansfield in Vermont, the Adirondacks in New York, to extended grazing regions, to the seaside where the prevailing wind is

from the ocean, or to densely inhabited cities, with few parks and open spaces. Respirators are a help.

The general system needs to be fortified, say by shower-baths and tonic medicines, and the local irritation should be allayed under the advice of a physician. Each attack increases the susceptibility, and fre quently recurring attacks may lead to deaf-ness, as the Eustachian tube generally shares in the irritation.

RELATION OF NICOTINE TO VERTIGO. The Results of Various Investigations Laid Before the French Academy.

New York Tribune.] M. Decaisne has laid before the French Academy of Medicine the results of various investigations relating to the vertigo peculiar to smokers. From this it appears that the numerous experiments made in this line have proved that nicotine contracts the muscular coat of the vessels, and that vertigo is due to the exaggerated contraction of the arteries of the brain-the patient experiences a feeling of emptiness in the head, so much so that he seeffis as if about to faint, everything turning around and his ideas becoming confused.

M. Decaisne has further ascertained that these phenomena are chiefly found in smok-

ers above 50 years of age, and especially in those habitually accustomed to smoking be-fore meals; he has also known several of these persons to be treated for cerebral con-gestion, and even for disease of the heart, with the result, as might be supposed, of increasing the symptoms, the proper treat-ment consisting in absolute abstention from the weed, and some slight laxative with

Always Safe and Sure.

It is safe to take Brandreth's Pills at any time, but to get the best results they should be taken on an empty stomach before going to bed. For constipation or dyspepsis, one or two taken every night will in a short time perform an absolute cure. It is well to take a purgative at least once or twice a month as a preventive of disease. Brandreth's Pills are entirely vegetable, and the safest and most effective purgative ever introduced to the public. They have been used in this country for over 30 years.

A MAN OF MANY WILES

The Florida Land Agent and Peculiar Characteristics.

YELLOW FEVER BUT AN INCIDENT

Alligators. SELLING REAL ESTATE BY THE GALLON

SOUTH FLOR-IDA, April 4.-In

Florida, from the North to the South, and from the Atlantic to the Gulf, the broad, bland smile of a wellknown character meets every tourist. He is the real es-

tate agent of the Italy of America! The humble well-wisher of the stranger and a martyr to the cause of the much abused "land of alligators, sand and tin cans." In the church, the hotel, on steamboat or train, he makes life interesting to the traveler. In glibness of tongue this irrepressible rivals the Pennsylvania book agent. In almost every instance, this defender of the State is a native of Yankeedom, and when Yankee meets Yankee it is worse than Greek meeting Greek. The regular 'down Easter" who can see nothing from a numbrin to a nine tree outside of Yankeedom, without exclaiming. "Maine kin beat it every time," meets his counterpart in the

REAL ESTATE BY THE GALLON. This friend of the Flower Land deals in futures, and faith and hope—in the speculator—are his guarding spirits. As "doctors seldom take their own medicine, and divines do not always practice what they preach," so the agent is shy of meddling with the

Florida agent, as he fights the battle, "or-

anges versus nutmegs."

—land of sunshine—homes for the homeless, health, wealth, happiness, etc., etc. Cause, a la Chinese, "Too muchee talkee, allee samee kind."

Wisdom and experience teach that the Sketches of Eccentric Characters

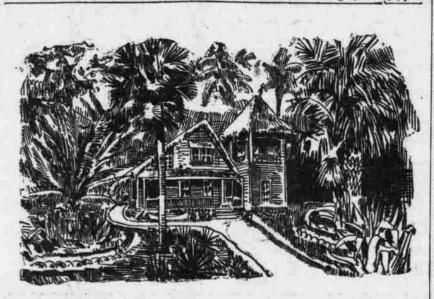
man who wants to enjoy a tour of the sunny peninsula must label himself "sold" to agent No. 1; a combat with this "Florida shark" would re-quire a resurrection of Heracles, for like the nine-headed hydra, as often as one is slain, two rise in his stead. The same "cuteness" or originality which characterizes the Yankee all over the world, inspiring him to meet the latest wants in patent medicine, "probinition editions"—with the 'dold rye" where the pages ought to be—enables him also to put his knowl-To a Residence in the Land of Flowers and edge of Florida into a flowery poem that is

'easy to take." The real estate agent is like an encyclopedia on an electric current. He is burdened with a knowledge of "smallpox in California," destructive blizzards of the



Talked to Death-Agent and Victim. great Northwest, and pictures graphically the horrors of Northern bank capital supporting the great trust company of cashiers in Canada. Florida, too, is a land of royalty, if we may judge from the titled inhabitants. General, captain, captain, story company are called at the captain of the cheaper hostelries, are considerably in excess of the cost of housekeeping. One can readily understand why bachelors and single ladies prefer to pay liberally for their board, rather than provide their own food and lodging, but why married people, colonel, etc., are common appella-tions all through the South, but here we find kings and queens plentiful—from the king of the crackers, cattle king, orange king, etc., etc., to

THE KING OF LAND AGENTS. Whether this royal agent of Florida pos-sesses the combined strength, courage, phil-



A TROPICAL FLORIDA HOME.

land of oranges and balmy sunshine on his own account. He is, in the main, a hard working, faithful fellow; but, of course, frequently obliged to get into scrapes, as in the case of the agent who sold a "beautiful fragrant elysium, with a lake front, and as a bonus, climate thrown in during the dry season; but when the buyer attempted The most recent opinion is that it is a location, nothing but the climate re-mained; so with the heroic spirit of a Trogan our vanquished victor of a Trogan our vanquished threw the deed to the largest in the swamp with the generous reminder, "Possession is nine points in law," and as he waded away from the watery vastness of the stretching marsh, the realization of the

the stretching marsh, the realization of the "chestnut," "land bought and sold by the gallon," settled upon him.

The land agent is a man of varied moods and tenses and quickly accommodates himself to his victim. One person finds in him a disciple of the teaching, "be 'umble Uriah, and you'll git on." To another he has all the wild-eyed enthusiasm of a Colouel Sellers. He is a "defender of the faith." Every objection filed is met with and fought with outright. The objections, sand moccasins and malaria, fade away sand, moccasins and malaria, fade away like dew before a Florida sunshine when

this modern Demostehnes takes up the de-fense. In war and in peace, the Yanker real estate agent is equal to every emergency, and it does not require a Methuselah to note that the energy and versatility that are so invaluable in soldiers, and so char-acteristic of the American, are the gifts genius, wit and power-of the agent,

MERELY A VISITATION. If truth is stranger than fiction, then might every modern Annanias in this profession wish he had been born a G. Washington. What bad effects has yellow fever left on speculation, Mr. Land Agent? This bitter question is put to him every day dur-ing this sesson, but the Spartan will die game rather than show the white feather, and as to Yellow Jack answers, like Mr. game rather than show the white feather, and as to Yellow Jack answers, like Mr. Squeers, "It's a wisitation, sir, is the lot o' mortality. The world, sir, is chock full of wisitations," and goes on to prove, with soulful arguments, that now is the time to invest: to morrow the soulful arguments, that now is the time to invest: to morrow the soulful arguments, that now is the time to invest: to morrow the soulful arguments, that now is the time to invest: to morrow the soulful arguments, that now is the time to invest: to morrow the soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The white Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and so yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful arguments and yellow Mr. The world will be a soulful argument will be a sou invest; to-morrow the opportunity will be forever lost. The agent rubs his Aladdin' lamp, produces his usual accessory, a little "paper town," and before the speculator, "paper town," and before the speculator, spectral scenes rise up. The desolate pine barrens become the sear of a magical city. In the rank jungles of the hammocks, magnolia avenues, orange boulevards, architectural cottages, etc., etc., spring up before his imagination. It is told hat a brave, bold Northerner, easer for

Northerner, eager for adventure, wagered adventure, wagered he would make a tour of the State, eat, drink and be merry with every agent he met, and return sound in mind and body, as well as free of the re-



sponsibility of Flor- A Paper City.
ida real estate. Result—before he had
half finished the journey, physician
consulted, diagnosis case, brain fever.
In his delirium, mutterings of Florids

osophy, versatility and persuasiveness of all the "mighty host" remains to be proven. all the "mighty host" remains to be proven, but with 7,000,000 acres of land on his lists, the king of Florida land agents will need the strength of old Atlas, and it will require more strategy than the mythological giant possessed if he shifts this little world of real estate on to the shoulders of a modern Hercules,
After all, there is a peculiarity about

Florida. Its witching, stimulating climate

acts like an elixir, and silver promises to blend with golden realities, and the land agent is the magician who has forced this beautiful, trackless, tropical wilderness into the ranks of a vigorous, public-spirited, enterprising country. There is a fascination in the romantic legends of this elysian land. So romantic legends of this elysian land. So the agent who has discovered the original Garden of Eden, in Florida, finds many ready to believe in him, and when he pro-duces the petrified core of the apple, and the identical fig tree from which Eve made her trousseau, until the world disproves his assertions he will continue to sell town lots in the original Paradise, and, when the prospective city appears, no doubt do honor to the apple core by departing from all formulas and erecting a monument—to Eve!
The Fountain of Youth is a real Florida chestnut, and about as profitable in Dixie as the wooden nutmeg in Yankeedom. Old de Leon's failure to find the spring has proved a benefactor to the school of land agents, for each one has accepted the privi-lege of locating the Perpetual Spring, and the Yankee medicine man is securing nectarine trusts and bottling these healthnectarine trusts and bottling these neath-giving and rejuvenating waters for the ben-efit of humanity, and youth, health and happiness are within reach of all those who will put trust and faith in the self-sacrificing reformers of the Land of Flowers, sunshine, oranges and wealth. M. M.

A LANGUID LIFE.

The Tropics Compel Foreigners to Make Life Very Easy.

Europeans in the tropics do nothing for themselves which they are not compelled to do, and at last almost lose the power of exerting themselves at all. A writer thus describes life at one of the large hotels of Calentta:

"Every guest must have a man of his wn to perform the most trifling service; then two men have to be engaged to work the bedroom punkah, one by day, the other by night. In the wide passage of the hotel, you find some of these men sitting or lying asleep till they are wanted.

"A sportsman hardly goes out without five attendants-one to carry his gun until it is wanted, another the ammunition, and a third the dead game. Number four would be responsible for refreshments, while the fifth man would lead a pony to carry the

Chicago Tribune. J Masked Burglar (surprising railroad official alone in office)—I'll trouble you, my friend, to open that 'ere safe and hand me out the stuff that's inside. Official (trembling)-Don't point that

revolver at me, please don't! I'll do it. Here it is. Here it is.

Burglar (pocketing the spoil)—Thank
you, my friend. Now I'll trouble you to
give me a pass to Omaha, properly signed,
and with the place for the name left blank. Official (coldly)-I can't give you a pass,

Burglar-I must have it, my friend. Official (impatiently)—You are not en-titled to a pass, I tell you. Burglar (coeking revolver)-Come, be

Official (in a violent rage)—You infernal secoundrel, take that! (knocks burglar down, ties his hands and feet, and telephones for

Who Have Been Patrons

OF SOME PITTSBURG HOSTELRIES.

Grumbling Guests, Satisfied Boarders, and Strangers Who Betray

ASTONISHING LACK OF INFORMATION

WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH. I One of the peculiar features of America which has been commented upon by Max O'Rell and other foreigners, is its hotel population. I do not mean travelers and transient guests, but another class whose only home is within a hotel.

Whoe'er has travel'd life's dull round. Where'er his stages may have bee May sigh to think he still has found

His warmest welcome at an inn. So says Shenstone, and the average man who is blest with a happy home will be inclined to agree with him. But there are hundreds who think otherwise; men and women, both married and single, possessed of abundant means, who prefer hotel life to the petty annoyances of housekeeping. There is scarcely a city or village in the country which does not number among its population many persons who reside at seem as if no one could adopt that mode of living from necessity, or from motives of economy, as the rates, even of the cheaper hostelries, are considerably in food and lodging, but why married people, and even families, should follow their example is not so apparent. But every per-son who can will follow his or her inclinstions, and it is a fact beyond dispute that the number inclined hotel-ward is already large and steadily increasing. The HOTEL POPULATION OF PITTSBURG,

if reckoned up, would probably run into the thousands, and it embraces wealthy business men, clerks, and even laborers. Only men of good income can afford to live at first-class hotels, but there are second, third, fourth and even fifth rate establishnents, so that a person can board at a hotel or almost any price, from \$50 a week down o \$5, and even less. Talking with an old otel clerk of this city, the other day, I picked up some information that rather

'Why," he said, "I know men that pay, \$150 a month for board and only \$15 or \$16 for office rent. There are others, who have neither offices nor business, but ample inneither offices nor business, but ample incomes, who live in single rooms in small
hotels and are astonishingly economical.
Every hotel almost has its set of old boarders who have been regular fixtures for 10,
15 or 20 years, and some very peculiar
people there are among them, too. One Every hotel almost has its set of old boarders who have been regular fixtures for 10, 15 or 20 years, and some very peculiar people there are among them, too. One man I could mention, only it wouldn't do, has occupied the same suit of rooms for a dozen years, and has never permitted the walls to be repapered, or the woodwork painted, or new carpets put down in all that time. The only fixing or cleaning he will permit is sweeping, and that has to be done carefully or he raises a row. It would go hard with a servant who so much as moved a book or paper from its place while dusting. He has a big closet in one of his rooms which is filled from top to bottom with an accumulation of old clothes, old papers, account books, newspapers, hats, cast off shoes and other stuff that has been there for years. The closet has never been cleaned out since he began piling stuff in there. All the material in it must be

well nigh worthless, yet he values it as highly as if it were worth its weight in gold.

"We have another guest who has sat at the same table with other boarders for five years, and never yet addressed a word to them. He's quite sociable with strangers, but he never opens his mouth to the hotel people unless to give an order to some of the

ervants. SEVERAL LITTLE ECCENTRICITIES. "Another old boarder wasn't suited with "Another old boarder wasn't suited with his room after the house had been renovated a year ago, and so he got it frescoed, papered and fixed up to suit his own taste. As he was a good customer the landlord allowed him to have his own way. I suppose he went to an expense of several hundred dollars in fitting up the room, getting new carpets, new curtains, and some new furni-ture. Why he did it I can't imagine; must be 'twas a whim, for he never spends any time in his room except at night, and as long as I've been here I've never known him to invite anybody into it.

"Another old fellow is known to the

in any way his peculiarities are pretty sure to crop out here. If he is inexperienced and comes from a back town, we know it, no matter how much style he may try to put

STRANGE INFORMATION WANTED.

"Not long ago a well dressed man who was stopping here asked me where the post-office was. I gave the directions as well as I could, after which he thanked me and remarked that he wanted to mail a letter. I didn't inform him that there was a letter box right here in the office, for I didn't want him to think I was aware of the fact that he was a 'hayseed' from 'way back.

"Another man who asked me whether I

knew a certain person was completely mys-tified when I began looking over the city directory to find the name he mentioned. Evidently he had never seen such a publication before, "'What?' said he, 'do you have a book what said he, do you have a book that tells where everybody lives?'

"It is supposed to contain the name of every resident of Pittsburg and Allegheny,' I replied.

'Might convenient scheme for you. rejoined, and from further remarks I in-ferred that he was under the impression that the book had been compiled and printed solely for the use of our hotel. printed solely for the use of our hotel.

"Then we have to give people advice as to what merchants, tailors, etc., to patronize. We are supposed also to know which theater is giving the best show and to be able to tell our guests at which of the churches they are likely to hear the finest sermon. A hotel clerk needs to be a walking energylanding of clerk needs to be a walking encyclopedia of general information, and he must be if he is successful in his business." BART.

THE newest rehabilitation is the victory of the White Rose through its latest cham-

AN EDEN IN THE OCEAN.

One Sea-Washed Spot Where Flowers Bloom and Birds Sing Through the Livelong Year,

Is the King's ship; in the deep nook, where once Thou call'dst me up at midnight to fetch dev

-Shakespeare's Tempest, Act I., Scene II. When the last piece of baggage had been stowed in the hold of the steamship Oronoco sounds of a kissing kind were heard on her not overly clean decks, and then the ship's bell warned the farewell and ta-ta delegation to seek the seclusion that an oderiferous North river pier grants on a premature

spring day.

The commetion was caused by a large delegation of New York males and females who had been scared away from Florida by Yellow Jack germs, and were seeking a sun bath and swellish pleasures at a resort but recently boomed in press and pamphlet at the metropolis. The lines were cast off, the engines lazily labored with shaft and screw and gradually pushed the narrow iron wave-jumper upon the bosom of New York bay-destination, Bermuda; latitude, unknown to nearly all on board; longitude, ditto; distance, mere conjecture; course, by hotels from choice. Indeed, it would the compass; direction and force of wind, immaterial; object, pleasure and the sweets of fashionable hotel life in a sub-tropical isle; prospect, delightful; spirits, buoyant; barometer falling.

As the Oronoco slowly swung out of her slip a goodly company gathered on the sea-ward end of Pier 47 and bade the voyagers a handkerchief bon voyage. The floral offerings to the tourists who seemed to belong to the gold-beited band of MacAllisterites -please pronounce MacOllester-were profuse; but alas! the posies were destined to waste their sweetness on plebeian nostrils. Variegated silk and linen fluttered in a responsive farewell, and the ship slowly moved upon the garbage-tainted waters of the bay, whose effluvia may yet cause Bartholdi's bronze giantess to drop her illylighted torch and hold her nostrils. Mean-

The merry March wind piped a lively lay That rattled the ratlines and chains; And the steamship bounded on over the Bay, And soon reached the watery plains.

The First Dinner Bell.

Ir was breezy, but there was no dust; hence it was refreshing. Before the Hook was reached many aristocratically-delicate and plebeian stomachs craved sustenance, and when the steward's bell finally piped all hands to the saloon there was a struggle for choice seats at the high-racked, crib-like board. Many had picked out places, having liberally tipped the autocrat of the dining

They held the board until some of their companions suddenly wearied of the feast and the gossip and silently stole away, with whitened lip, unsteady fread and a ship dinner that had asserted itself. Then etiquette was cast aside, and it was a go-asquette was cast aside, and it was a go-asyou-please skirmish for state rooms, where
contribution boxes had been placed to receive the offering which would soon be
offered up to the gulls, those tireless
winged beggars of the sea, and the big and
little fishes down below.

The patient plebelans who went aboard
unencumbered by steamer chairs, floral
monuments, babies, old ladies, sisters,
sweethearts or aunts—the real men who

sweethearts or aunts—the real men who were out for all there was in it, who neither feared mal de mer nor the blank stare of the uppish portion of the company—made themselves solid with M.-le Steward from the start by meekly giving way to the hun-gry selects and waiting for the second table.

While grabbing for dishes that slid to the Then they staggered away in most horrid disorder, And, few, very few, of them ate any more!

THE voyage from Sandy Hook to the coral reefs of Bermuda is undoubtedly the roughest on the Atlantic. It is the dreadful "Another old fellow is known to the hotel employes as "The Kicker." Nothing ever suits him; at least he was never heard to express satisfaction at anything done for him. He has a new complaint to make to the landlord every day, and has been informed more than a thousand times that he might leave if not suited, vet he couldn't be hired to move. He enjoys his fussing, and as we've got used to it, very little attention is paid to any of his grumbling. Boarders in general don't require half as much waiting on as transients, but there are some I have known that I wouldn't have about a hotel at any price, if I was managing it.

"Drummers are our most appreciative and agreeable patrons. They always make themselves at home, get acquainted without an effort and treat the hotel folks like old friends after they've been here a day. The man who travels least is likely to be most exacting and cause most bother. A hotel is the best place in the world in which to stady human nature. If a man is cranky in any way his peculiarities are pretty sure to crop out here. If he is inexperienced Channel trip long drawn out. The course pitches, rolls to the 25° angle and ships big seas on her weather side with suddenness and frequency. The Oronoco had a norwesfer all the way down. The wind did grove marshes, no snakes crawl through her not shift a point from start to finish, and coral caverns. Nothing in earth or air with

low by the heavy seas and the lurching rolling, sessickening motion. The condi-tion of the company was truly pitiful, par-ticularly that of the female portion and the

tion of the company was truly pittini, particularly that of the female portion and the few children aboard.

All who contemplate a trip to Bermuda next winter should be prepared for a tough tussle with the sea. Only one lady was able to appear at table during the major portion of the trip down, and three or four—one the daughter of a New York pilot, who was used to the sea—ate sparingly at every meal on the return voyage until the western side of the Gulf Stream was reached, the wind ceased to blow, and the sea settled down a bit. The remainder of the trip was pleasant, and the ghastly sick soon got their land legs and control of their sorely-tried stomachs.

So you see how a ship in the Bermuda trade saves money in the food line.

They cross the Gulf Stream diagonally at its supposably widest part. It takes from 12 to 14 hours to pass over this mysterious river of the ocean on this route. No matter how calm it may be on either side, you will get a shaking up here. Old sailors backed up this statement, and it is made on their authority. When the writer crossed it was masty weather, and it was undoubtedly

nasty weather, and it was undoubtedly

"In the year 1600 a fleet sent out by the Virginia Company, Sir George Sommers being Admiral, was encountered by storms, and the Admiral, whip was driven to the Bernudas. "Sir George Sommers, eithing at the stearne, seeing the ship desperate of reliefs, looking every minute when the ship would sinke, hee espied land. which, according to his, and Captain Newport's opinion, they judged it should be that dreadful coast of the Bormudes, which liandia, were of all Nations and and supposed to bee inchanted and inhabited with witches and devills, which grew by reason of accustomed monstrous. Thunder, storms, and

rougher in the stream than outside of it, for We rocked and we rolled on the top of the While sailing o'er the river of the ocean: Many pale-faced creatures longed for the

grave, While well ones cursed the beastly motion! Now would I give a thousand furlongs of sea for an acre of barren ground; loog heath, brown furze, anything: The wills above be done! but I would fain die a dry death,—Shakespeare, The Tempest.

A Peep at Paradise.

EARLY on a June morning-it was March in America, but the dudines aboard leclared it was June, and as this term saves a description of the weather it is utilized here-the Oronoco dropped anchor in Five Fathom Hole, just off England's big dry dock, and the sung harbor occupied by several of H. M.'s warships. When the sun rose over oleander and cedar-clad hills it shed a light that enabled the early risers on board to catch a first glimpse of the Ber-

mudas.

Spread before their delighted gaze was a Spread before their delighted gaze was a panorama of hill and ocean. Snow-white villas of quaint but unimposing design exposed side and roof from behind a screen of blooming foliage. Far as the eye could reach these pretty houses, perched on hill-side and nestling in flowery, palm-decked dells, held up their snowy roofs for the first kiss of the summer-like sun, while a flower-scented zephyr helped the god of day to sip the dew that shone like diamonds on the tiles and hung pearl-like on the cool-looking, deep-green leafy veils that half hid them from view. Through long lines of tropical growth a cream-like roadway wound round growth a cream-like roadway wound round hill and disappeared down valler, like a white serpeut, with skin immaculate, hunting a bower of roses in which to lazily coil and sleep off a feast spread by the god of warm wind and life-giving ray—frostless ever,

failing never! failing never!

Down deep through the clear salted waters they gazed into fantastic beds of coral and forests of sea fans through which the beautiful angel fish, the striped hamlet, the monster rock fish, the frisky red snapper and the playful porgie gamboled, unmindful of the presence of astonished strangers on the sky-blue and wonderfully opaque waters above them.

waters above them.

The delightful feast spread by Nature on the earth above and in the waters beneath soothed the nausea-ridden victims of the Gulf Stream, and all miseries were Gulf Stream, and all miseries were forgot-ten in the pretty marine picture, which held all spellbound, until-

The smoke from a lighter darkened sunbeam, And the bustle for landing began; While the yell of the porter disturbed a day And they turned to face custom and medical

Where It Tires Some to Rest.

THANKS to the free trade proclivities of clatter of wheel, screech of locomotive, tinkle of horse car bell, shout of runner or hand of hackman was heard or seen. It was Sabbath repose of the high-est order, in spite of the fact that the three est order, in spite of the fact that the three loue barbers on the island lathered and shaved, and the genial mixers of brandy splits dished out hot doses to all comera. The shop keeper toiled not, and the fizz of the soda fountain jarred not on the Wishartian ear. L. & O. folk would find a peace that caused boisterous talkers to lower their tones, and exorcised loud laughers as to cause them to suppress their guffaws into satisfied smiles. Out on the white roads that ran under the budding eleanders it was the peace of Paradise. Only the whistle of the red bird and the chirrup of the sparrow broke the rural silence of that sweet's summer-like Sabbath morn in climateher shores the waves rolled in rythmic numbers, and in receding left behind no debris of the sea to hide the scale lines of

Such is Bermada on Sunday beyond the narrow confines of hotel and rambling village. It is a peace that to the busy man of business seems oppressive. It makes him tired to rest. But those who seek refuge from the whirl of living, who have gone wrong in nerve center and tissue, who chase the god of sleep in wakeful dreams only to see the vision-veil lifted and the shadows grow brighter instead of darker, Barmuda is a sea-girt heaven. Frost is un-known. Her pure coral-washing waves and pictures que bays breed no malaria. Her thermometer in winter ranges from 65° to 75°. During the writer's stay it did not poisoned sting or venomous tooth and tongue scares loungers in field or on shore. They say that centipedes have been imported from the West Indies, and are sometimes found on the southern coast. A few mosquitoes buzz in summer time, and the frisky flea makes it interesting for those who linger about the docks in hot weather. These are trifles, however, as one apparently must hunt for before finding them in springtime.

Certain 'Tis a bright little isle laved by bluest of waves. That are warmed in the wash of the stream of the sea: That roll over reefs into quaint coral caves,

And shake their white manes on a flowery

A Few Peculiar Features. BERMUDA onions and potatoes are household words in northeastern America. The first crop of potatoes has nearly been deyoured and the second crop is coming on nicely now. The onions have been retarded by a wet winter, but a few boxes have been shipped to New York. The potatoes and onions look just like the Yankee article, except the tops are greener and more showy. An onion and a murphy are the same the world over, barring flavor and strength. The Bermuda lily is now in full bloom. Acres of this waxy white beauty scent the air and nod in fields hedged by oleanders. A field of lilies nestling in a secluded but fertile little valley is a feast for eye and nostril, and a money-making

for eye and nostril, and a money-making concern for the owner.

Scientists say Bermuda is a heaved-up coral reef. As Science says this, it would be useless to go behind the returns.

Bermuda's hills are quite lofty, and much cutting has been resorted to in building her beautiful roads. While walking one morning the sound of a saw discordantly marred the whistling of the red bird. Turning a bend in the road I came upon a dusky native lazily pulling a saw of the cross-cut pattern through a hillside. He said he was making a road. In other words he was sawing a pathway through a miniature making a read. In other words he was sawing a pathway through a miniature mountain. The stone offered no more resistance to his rude implement than would a piece of ice. After sawing out a hage block he commenced cutting it into smaller squares. These will be exposed to the air and hardened, when they will be used for

building purposes. Quarrymen and stone-cutters would hunger in Bermuda. This stone is porous, of a cream-white